RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF

ABERYSTWYTH

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P U B L I C H E A L T H D E P A R T M E N T

ANNUAL REPORT

1954

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

I. Morgan Watkin, Ph. D. (Lond.)., M.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.(Wales).

SANITARY INSPECTOR

D. G. Bowen, A.R.S.I.

ABERYSTWYTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman
1953/54
Councillor D. H. Jones

Chairman
1954/55
Councillor W. D. Lewis

28 members including the chairman

Committees dealing with Public Health Matters

(a)

Finance, Health and Housing Committee

Chairman
1953/54
Councillor Dillwyn Griffiths

Chairman
1954/55
Councillor Inigo Jones

All members of the Council

(b)

Water and Sewerage Committee

Chairman
1953/54
Councillor T. J. Pugh

Chairman
1954/55
Councillor W.A.Jenkins

All members of the Council

(c)

Bills and Plans Committee

Chairman
1953/54
Councillor D. C. Morgan

Chairman
1954/55
Councillor Dr.T.J.Jones

Eight members of the Council

Clerk of the Council:

Cyrus Evans, Esq.,
Council Offices,
Chalybeate Street,
Aberystwyth.

Telephone No. - Aberystwyth 270.

The Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Finance,
Health and Housing Committee and Members of the
Aberystwyth Rural District Council.

PREFACE

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Health Department for the year ended December 31st, 1954.

An examination of the ensuing pages will show that the health of the inhabitants of the area continues to give cause for satisfaction. Although afflicted with minor ailments, in common with other parts of the country, the district has not been subjected to any outbreak of serious infectious disease.

The number of deaths registered during the year was 165 - five more than in 1953, but forty six fewer than in 1951 which was one of the peak years for deaths. The principal causes of death remain the same as for the United Kingdom generally. Heart disease, in its various forms, claimed forty three victims, whilst vascular lesions of the nervous system (strokes) caused the death of twenty three persons. Cancer accounted for nine deaths.

The number of registered live births was 161 - an increase of fifteen over the previous year. Ten illegitimate births were recorded during the year - an increase of two over 1953. Three stillbirths were registered and four babies died under the age of a twelvemonth. No mother died as a result of childbirth.

Scarlet fever which is now a mild disease was contracted by thirteen persons. Ten cases of whooping cough were notified. Ten new cases of tuberculosis were notified - an increase of two over the previous year.

An outbreak of influenza which occurred towards the end of the year deserves mention. Although influenza is an infectious disease, it is not a

notifiable one under the Public Health enactments. The medical officer of health, by agreement between government departments, receives information from the local office of the Ministry of National Insurance whenever sickness benefit claims undergo a sudden rise. In this way he is able to inform the hospitals in the area and the Home Help service of the County Council that increased demands are likely to be made on their services. At the request of the Welsh Board of Health, tests were made in collaboration with the Public Health Laboratory Service to ascertain the type of virus which was causing influenza in the Aberystwyth Rural District. The results showed this to be Virus B. A large proportion of those affected were children and the illness lasted, as a rule, for a few days only. There were, however, two deaths from the disease.

A number of applications for the Council's consent under the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries grant-aided water schemes was considered. Some were approved and others, where faecal contamination existed, were referred back for further protective measures to be carried out.

Reports upon the housing conditions of tuberculous persons were made to the Council for consideration by the appropriate Tenants' Selection Committee. Official representations were made in respect of certain houses found unfit for human habitation under the Housing Act, 1936. In one case where a demolition order had been made by the Council, the owner appealed to the County Court. The court upheld the Council's decision and the appeal was dismissed.

The survey of unfit properties required to be undertaken under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, is estimated to show over two hundred properties as unfit for human habitation. There are, in addition, nearly

three hundred persons on the Council's waiting list. It would appear, therefore, that the Council still has a formidable housing task ahead.

The Council has pressed ahead with the Southern Division water scheme - a scheme which will be a great asset to the southern part of the rural district in that it will ensure an adequate supply of wholesome water to those villages not at present so provided and, at the same time, make the installation of sewerage schemes possible.

The derationing of meat has resulted in the opening of a slaughterhouse in the Aberystwyth Rural District, which the Sanitary Inspector visits for meat inspection twice weekly.

One long-outstanding problem which cannot escape comment is the delay in providing Llanbadarn with a proper means of sewage disposal. It is a sad reflection upon central as well as upon local government that a public enquiry held as long ago as October 1952 has yielded not a sewage disposal plant but a spate of arguments and counter arguments to the continued detriment of the public health in the village.

A more detailed account of the work of the department will be found in the ensuing pages.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	140,728
Population (Census 1951).	10,966
Population (Registrar General's Mid-Year 1953)	10,870
Population (Registrar General's Mid-Year 1954)	10,920
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1954	£30,427
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1955	£30,735
Sum represented by a penny rate 1953/54	£122

		Total	Male	Female
Number of registered live births	Leg:	151	77	74
	Illeg:	10	4	6
Number of registered still births... ...	Leg:	3	2	1
	Illeg:	-	-	-
Number of deaths of infants under 1 year.	Leg:	4	4	-
	Illeg:	-	-	-
Number of deaths of infants under 4 weeks	Leg:	1	1	-
	Illeg:	-	-	-
Number of deaths of women ascribed to childbirth		Nil		
Number of registered deaths		165	81	84
Areal comparability factor for births ...		1.18		
Areal comparability for deaths		0.71		

General Provision of Health Services in the Area

In addition to the general medical services provided by registered medical practitioners the following ancillary services are provided by the local health authority:-

(a) An ante-natal and post-natal clinic is held fortnightly at Aberystwyth. In those areas not readily accessible from Aberystwyth, expectant and nursing mothers receive medical advice from their own doctors.

(b) Infant welfare clinics are held fortnightly at the following centres: Taliesin, Borth and Llanbadarn and weekly at Aberystwyth.

(c) The domiciliary midwifery service is carried out by the district nurses who are also State Registered Nurses.

(d) One health visitor covers the northern half of the district and another the southern half.

(e) Home nursing is in the hands of the district nurse.

(f) Vaccination is carried out by the person's own medical attendant but immunisation against diphtheria is performed partly by the former and partly by medical officers of the local health authority.

(g) No ambulance is stationed in the Rural District. The headquarters of the ambulance service are situated in Aberystwyth from which four ambulances operate.

(h) Arrangements for the prevention of illness consist in periodic talks and advice given by the staff of the local health authority.

Care and after care is in the hands of the health visitor and the district nurse. Tuberculosis cases are also followed up by the Chest Physician's health visitor.

(i) Domestic help is provided by suitable persons engaged locally.

CAUSES OF DEATH

Registrar General's Code Number	Causes of Death	Number of deaths Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2	Tuberculosis, other	1	-	1
3	Syphilitic disease	1	-	1
4	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5	Whooping cough	-	-	-
6	Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8	Measles	-	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	-	1	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	5	11
11	Malignant neoplasm lung, bronchus	3	-	3
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
14	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms ...	4	9	13
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16	Diabetes	-	-	-
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	12	23
18	Coronary disease, angina	10	8	18
19	Hypertension with heart disease	3	1	4
20	Other heart disease	7	14	21
21	Other circulatory disease	3	5	8
22	Influenza	1	1	2
23	Pneumonia	6	2	8
24	Bronchitis	2	5	7
25	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	2	1	3
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	-	2
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	3	-	3
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31	Congenital malformations	2	1	3
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	10	14	24
33	Motor vehicle accidents	2	-	2
34	All other accidents	-	3	3
35	Suicide	-	-	-
36	Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	Total	81	84	165

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a list of the notifications of infectious disease, other than tuberculosis, received during the year.

Cholera	Nil
Diphtheria	Nil
Dysentery(amoebic and bacillary)	Nil
Encephalitis	Nil
Erysipelas	Nil
Food poisoning	Nil
Malaria	Nil
Measles	2
Meningococcal meningitis	Nil
Ophthalmia neonatorum	Nil
Paratyphoid fever	Nil
Plague	Nil
Pneumonia (acute primary and acute influenzal)	1
Poliomyelitis	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia.	Nil
Relapsing fever	Nil
Scarlet fever	13
Smallpox	Nil
Typhoid fever	Nil
Typhus fever	Nil
Whooping cough	10

The Puerperal Pyrexia (Amendment) Regulations, 1954, were laid before Parliament and all medical practitioners practising in the Rural District were informed of the amendments to the law.

TUBERCULOSIS

During the year ten new cases of tuberculosis were notified. The details are as follows:-

AGE GROUP	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 4				
5 - 9		1		
10 - 14				
15 - 19	4			
20 - 24				
25 - 29	1	1		
30 - 34				
35 - 39	1			
40 - 44	1			
45 - 49				
50 - 54				
55 - 59				
60 and over		1		
Totals	7	3	-	-

No action was taken under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

Although the mass radiography unit only visited the Borough of Aberystwyth, a substantial number of persons attending, especially secondary school children, were drawn from the Rural District. The result of the survey is, therefore, of interest to the Rural District also.

Total number examined	2,094
Number found to be abnormal	118
Number found to be suffering from tuberculosis ..	Nil

Abnormalities detected

	Total	Male	Female
Bony abnormality	17	8	9
Bronchitis and Emphysema	21	20	1
Bronchiectasis	7	3	4
Pneumoconiosis. Stage 1 : 6			
" 2 : 2			
" 3 : -			
PMF. 2	10	10	-
Basal Fibrosis	3	2	1
Thickened Pleura	8	3	5
Acquired Heart Disease	5	1	4
Healed Primary P.T.	13	8	5
Healed Post Primary	16	6	10
Abnormality of Diaphragm	1	-	1
Retro-Sternal Goitre	1	-	1
Totals	102	61	41

SECTION 47 OF THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, AND NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.

Several cases were brought to the attention of the department during the year, but no action to remove the persons was taken except in two cases.

Case (1) was an elderly lady from Borth who was found in a collapsed condition in her house where she dwelt alone. She appeared to have had a stroke a day or so previously but refused to enter hospital. The house was filled with rubbish to a depth of 2 ft. 6 ins. in places and refuse had to be shovelled away before the front door could be opened. The lady was lying on a pile of rubb le at the far end of the room when the door was forced by the police and others. An order for her removal to the hospital section of Bronglais Hospital was made under the urgency provisions of the Act of 1951 for a period of three weeks. The patient, however, died within a few days of admission.

Case (2) was a man in his forties who lived with his aged mother at Clarach. He had been under observation for several months prior to his removal. A psychiatrist had reported that he was not certifiable under the Lunacy Acts. His behaviour, nevertheless, was abnormal for he would stay in bed for weeks at a time and allow his eighty year old mother to chop sticks and fetch coal up the hillside. On being asked why he did not get up from bed, he replied that it was too much trouble. When his mother was taken ill, he is alleged to have gone to the river and thrown himself in. He returned home in a soaking condition and refused to make food for himself. An order under the urgency section of the 1951 Act was made by a justice of the peace and he was removed to the Welfare Section of Bronglais Hospital. He died from pneumonia a few days later.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH

A number of international vaccination certificates of persons residing in the Rural District and proceeding to certain destinations overseas were authenticated in the prescribed manner. This duty is carried out under World Health Regulations No. 2.

PORT HEALTH AUTHORITIES AND RIPARIAN AUTHORITIES

Although the Aberystwyth Rural District Council is a riparian authority, there are no ports in the area which foreign-going ships or coastal shipping enter.

I. MORGAN WATKIN
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Cardiganshire Joint District Councils,
Swyddfa'r Sir,
ABERYSTWYTH.
June, 1955.

ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1954.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Three new registrations of premises used for the storage and sale of ice cream were approved under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The total number of premises registered for the sale of ice cream is now 48. No ice cream is manufactured in the Council's area, all ice cream being brought in to the rural area for retail sale from shops and cafes registered under the Act. Most of the ice cream is pre packed which helps to reduce contamination in handling. The cafes and kitchens of the restaurants in Borth were inspected regularly during the summer season and there were no flagrant breaches of the hygiene requirements of the Act. Structurally the premises are suitable, the biggest problem being the disposal of sullage water during the busy season. Sewage is disposed of by retention in cesspools which are cleansed when the necessity arises. Nuisance is apt to arise if these cesspools are not cleansed regularly.

Every effort was made to assist the cafe owners and restaurant proprietors in cleansing cesspools when they had become full.

No complaints were made by any member of the public against the cleanliness or efficient running of these food premises during the year. It was not found necessary to take proceedings for breach of the Council's Byelaws relating to the Handling and Sale of Food in shops or in the open air against any vendor of food.

A variety of tinned foods was surrendered by shop keepers and condemned as unfit for human consumption. The causes for condemnation were blown and rusty tins, or damaged food containers. Other foods such as bacon and meat were condemned because of decomposition. Not one case of food poisoning was notified during the year.

The majority of shops, including grocer, green grocer and butcher's shops were inspected and found to be kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The number of factories in the factories register is 49. Visits of inspection were made to these premises. The provision of sanitary conveniences and the improvement of existing sanitary accommodation in these premises is proceeding, but much remains to be done.

The number of bakehouses in the area remains at five; two being situated in Borth; one in Llangawsai; one in Talybont; and one in Llanrhystyd. Major improvements were effected to one of the bakehouses in Borth, which embraced the provision of a hot water supply, the installation of a glazed sink and

drainage system, the fixing of new ceilings and the provision of a water closet and cesspool, thus bringing the premises up to a good standard of fitness.

Lime washing was carried out at six monthly intervals at all the bakehouses. No complaints were received regarding the quality of the bread b aked at these bakehouses, during the year.

MILK AND DAIRIES

Control of milk production is in the hands of the Ministry of Agriculture and supervision of milk production methods and buildings is in the hands of the County Milk Regulations Officer. Milk distributors in the Council's area are registered by the Council. No new milk distributors were registered during the year.

Five Dealers Licences to sell Tuberculin Tested and Pasteurized milks were renewed.

HOUSING

The Council continued to build new houses and contracts were let for the erection of houses at:-

Llandre	- 8 Houses;	Trerddol	- 10 Houses;
Devil's Bridge	- 2 Houses;	Penllwyn	- 10 Houses.

During the year 26 new Council houses and 8 flats were completed and let to families living in unfit houses or sharing accommodation with other families and without a separate home of their own.

Every effort was made to let these houses in accordance with the housing need of each case which came under consideration.

The housing list remains a formidable one being in the region of 280 applicants.

The Council continued to make grants under the Housing Act, 1949, to owners for the improvement of their properties, and a number of house owners were the recipients of grants. Ten applications for grants were approved during the year.

Inspections were made of houses under the Housing Act, 1936 and three houses were scheduled for action under Section 11 of the Act as being unfit for human habitation and not repairable at a reasonable expense. Notices were subsequently served on the owners to appear before the Council and in the case of two of the houses undertakings were accepted from the owners to carry out repairs to make the houses fit in all respects. In the case of the other house, no undertaking was given or offer made by the owner to carry out repairs and a Demolition Order was made on the property, and it was eventually demolished by the owner.

Notices were served on owners of houses to carry out urgent repairs and eleven houses were made fit as a result of action thus taken.

There remains a large number of houses which are unfit and cannot be made fit at a reasonable expense. It is estimated that there are about 225 houses in this category which will have to be dealt with under the Slum Clearance Sections of the Housing Act, 1936. Some of these houses can be made fit; others will probably have to be the subject of Demolition Orders or dealt with in Clearance Areas.

The following statistics are given in accordance with the terms of Article 31 of the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925:-

(i) Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation . . . . . 28.

(ii) Number of houses, the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the local authority. . . . . 11.

(iii) Number of representations made to the local authority with a view to
(a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works . . .NIL
(b) the making of demolition or closing orders . . . . . 3.

(iv) The number of notices served requiring the execution of works . 11.

(v) Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices . . . . . NIL

(vi) Number of demolition or closing orders made . . . . . 1.

(vii) Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under Section 11 (3) of the Housing Act, 1936 . . . . 2.

(viii) The number of houses demolished . . . . . 1.

The following statistics are given in accordance with the terms of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations 1935.

Article 27 Section 18.

(a) Number of inspections 490

Nature of Inspections:

Investigations of complaints of nuisances 236
Housing inspections 110
Rodent Control Inspections 41
Inspection of food premises 63
Sampling of public and private water supplies 40

(b) Number of notices served:

Statutory	NIL
Other notices	54

(c) Result of Service of Notices:

Nuisances abated	79
Houses made fit	11

Article 17 Section 4

(a)

Number of dwellings overcrowded	6
Number of families	9
Number of persons dwelling therein	52

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding. 2

(c)

Number of cases of overcrowding relieved	NIL
Number of persons concerned	NIL

(d) Cases in which dwelling houses in respect of which the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding have again become overcrowded . . . . . NIL.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

House refuse was collected in all but six parishes in the Council's area and practically all the larger villages have a collection either once a week or fortnightly.

Disposal of refuse is by means of controlled tipping at Borth and Llanbadarn. The tips were supervised to ensure that they did not give rise to a nuisance and treatments were carried out for the destruction of rats.

Complaints against the service were few and the Council's refuse removal contractors did a good job of work. Very few villages now remain without a collection and it would be a good thing if all the main villages could be included in future contracts. This applies particularly to New Row, Pontrhydygroes, where there are 13 houses and a shop and no refuse collection, with the result that an unsightly dump of refuse has accumulated on a piece of land adjacent to the main road, and has given cause for complaint. The dumping of refuse in rivers and streams continues in spite of the Council's efforts to provide refuse collections. This reflects very badly on the villagers concerned, and is very difficult to control.

DITCHES AND WATERCOURSES

The Council are responsible for the cleaning of the following ditches and water courses, into which sullage water and sewage is discharged:-

Llanbadarn Fullbrook
Dolhalog Ditch
Quebec Ditch
Llangawsai Ditch
Borth Leet
Brynrodyn Ditch
Goginan Sewer Outfall Ditch
Waunfawr Watercourse.

These were all cleansed during the year and maintained so as to cause as little nuisance as possible.

Dolhalog, Doldau, Quebec and Llangawsai ditches are open sewers and become very offensive and serve as a constant reminder of the need for a system of sewerage and sewage disposal at Llanbadarnfawr.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

A register of complaints was kept and 118 complaints of statutory nuisances were entered on the register.

All complaints were investigated and most of the nuisances were abated by service of informal notices under the Public Health Act, 1936.

The standard of cleanliness of persons and premises remained on the whole at a high level, but it was found necessary to carry out the disinfestation of two premises, which had become infested with vermin due to their dirty condition. One of these premises has now been renovated but the other remains with us and the tenant presents us with a problem, as she is far from being clean, but is not so incapable as to warrant action being taken for her removal to an institution.

CAMPING SITES

There are seven licensed camping sites in the area.

These are situated in Borth, Clarach and Llanbadarn Fawr and were regularly inspected and supervised during the summer season.

The introduction of a water carriage system of sewage disposal at one of the larger camps at Borth was a step in the right direction, and was a decided improvement on the existing method of disposal by Elsan closets. A condition of all future licences for the use of land as camping sites should be that water closets must be provided wherever there is a main water supply available.

No cases of infectious diseases were notified from any of the camps.

RODENT CONTROL

There occurred a few minor infestations of rats in private dwellings and in business premises. Treatments for the eradication of the rats were carried out using Warfarin Poison.

Borth Tip and Llanbadarn Tip were dealt with as major infestations and treated with Warfarin satisfactorily.

It was not found necessary to serve any notices under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

WATER SUPPLIES

All villages supplied with water from local sources were kept in good supply throughout the year and there were no water shortages, the schemes being maintained in good working order by the Council's Surveyor.

Every effort was made to take samples for bacteriological analysis from these small schemes at least once monthly. Weekly samples were taken from the Northern Division Water Supply Scheme for bacteriological analysis and chemical samples when necessary to check on the chlorination and treatment of the raw water and filtered water.

All supplies were found on analysis to be of consistently good standard and no serious pollution took place. In addition to the Northern Division Water Supply, the supplies at Abermagwr and Llanafan are chlorinated and the supply at Llanddeiniol is filtered by means of a Meta filter.

The Southern Division Water Scheme was commenced and progress made on the alterations of the filter house at Bontgoch to accommodate additional filters and the laying of the new mains from Penrhyncoch to Llanilar as the first phase of the scheme.

The consent of the Council was given in a number of cases where application was made by farmers to use grant aided water supply schemes on farms for domestic purposes. Some of these supplies were found to be unsatisfactory on analysis and consent was refused.

Private water supplies were also sampled and field and advisory work carried out at the sources following the results of the analysis.

During the year 40 samples were taken for bacteriological analysis.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disinfection of rooms, clothing and fomites was carried out in cases of scarlet fever and tuberculosis. Where patients were discharged from sanatoria suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, investigations were carried out at their homes to ensure that all necessary precautions were being taken to prevent the spread of infection.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The sewerage scheme for the village of Llanfarian was completed and some of the houses have been connected. Other schemes at Bow Street and Llanrhystyd were in progress. A good deal of time was spent with the Resident Engineer of the Bow Street Sewerage Scheme, agreeing with him the position of all the junctions necessary to serve the properties to be connected, to the main sewer.

The junctions have been put in accordingly.

The work of cleaning cesspools on an actual cost basis was continued and during the year 44 cesspools were cleansed.

LICENSED PUBLIC HOUSES

A survey was made of the licensed houses in the Petty Sessional Division of Llanilar and a report submitted to the Magistrates on the improvements required to install adequate sanitary conveniences and glass washing facilities.

As a result a considerable amount of work has been done by the owners to bring the premises up to standard. There is still room for improvement in some of the houses and steps are being taken to bring them all up to a good standard of fitness, with regard to the facilities mentioned.

SLAUGHTERING OF ANIMALS

On the decontrol of meat rationing which took place during the year, application was received for a licence under Section 57 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for a new slaughter-house at Llangwyryfon. After referring the application to the Food Ministry for approval, this licence was granted by the Council, and the slaughtering of animals for human consumption began in July of this year at these premises.

Meat inspection has since been carried out tice weekly at this slaughterhouse and all meat examined and passed as fit for human consumption or condemned prior to its being distributed.

Supervision of slaughtering took place to ensure that the humane methods of slaughter as laid down in the Slaughtering of Animals Act, were practised at the slaughterhouse. A humane killer has been purchased by the owner of the slaughterhouse and is always used to stun all animals prior to their being bled, and this is satisfactory.

The meat examined was of very good quality and no whole carcases were condemned, for any generalized disease. By far the most common condition calling for condemnation of the organs affected was the liver fluke in the liver of sheep, lambs and cattle, and the main bulk of meat condemned consisted of livers affected in this way. The other condition met with calling for condemnation of the affected parts of the carcase only and parts contiguous thereto was bruising caused by injury or broken limbs.

Tuberculosis in cattle was not met with at all which is not surprising as the area is a clean area under the Attested Herds Scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture.

There is one knackers yard in the area which is licensed by the Council under Section 57 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. This premises was inspected prior to renewing the licence for the year 1954.

B UILDING LICENSING

The work involved in issuing building licences eased during the year with the increase in the "free limit" of work permissible, and the transfer of part of the work to the Ministry of Works.

At the end of the year there were 13 houses in course of erection under private licenses.

D. G. BOWEN, A.R.S.I.,
SANITARY INSPECTOR.

March, 1954.